

Approved For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP83-00415R010300080004-4

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 21 SEP 50

25X ~~SA~~ SUBJECT Conditions in Yugoslav
Universities

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. Conditions in Yugoslav universities during 1948 and 1949 were varied. The Universities of Belgrade and Zagreb were well established. The Universities of Ljubljana and Skopje were established by the present regime. The above four universities and the University of Sarajevo form the present cultural centers of the Communist Federation of Yugoslavia. The University of Zagreb is considered the best and has been operating continuously. Belgrade University was closed during the war.
2. The handicaps facing the universities during 1948 and 1949 were:
 - a. Most teachers and members of scientific staffs were either killed during the war, had fled from the Communist regime, or were imprisoned as anti-Communists. They were replaced by half-educated persons belonging to the Communist Party.
 - b. The number of students increased. The academic standards were lower. There were 2,000 to 3,000 officers studying medicine at these universities.
 - c. The foreign students were composed of Albanians, Bulgarians, Rumanians and Hungarians, who appeared to be anti-Cominformists. These students were quartered at the Studenski Dom (Student House) at a cost of 1,500 dinars a month. Albanian non-Communist refugee students included: Danish Daca, Enver Metani, Cesk Dajci, Halil Topalli, and Martin Camaj. There were also about 30 Albanians from the Kosova area in the universities.
 - d. Specialized courses available in the Western countries or in the Soviet Union were lacking. A small number of trusted students were sent to Switzerland or France to study. In addition to the courses required for specialized fields, the following courses were obligatory for all students in the above universities:
 - 1) The Theory of Marx-Lenin
 - 2) The History of the Communist Party
 - 3) The Development of Communism in Yugoslavia
 - 4) Theory and Military Training. Military training is held twice a week under the supervision of Yugoslav officer.

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- e. Books were scarce and in certain fields texts were non-existent. Texts on science were unobtainable and those existing were poorly translated editions of Soviet works. Scientific books have citations from Stalin. A book, Unutrasje Bolesti, translated from the Russian, claims that Stalin made the greatest contribution to medical science.
- f. The university laboratories are poorly equipped in spite of UNRRA contributions. This lack of equipment was covered by official propaganda stating that an anti-cancer center would be built. The building was erected, but it lacks equipment.

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